AGITATE !
EDUCATE !
ORGANIZE !

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Entered as second-class matter, September 26, 1911, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

HELP THE MINERS.

Local unions are urged to give prompt financial aid to the striking coal miners of Colorado.

VOL. 4. NO. 31 WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1914. WHOLE NO. 187

LIABILITY LAW BROADENED

Cincinnati, Oct. 31.—Judge Cosgrave, of the Common Pleas court, has set aside a ruling of the Industrial Commission of Ohio, and has ordered that compensation from the state insurance fund be paid David Brown, who is now disabled because of lead colic or lead poisoning contracted while employed in the manufacture of white lead.

The state commission denied his application for benefits on the ground that disability was not caused by an "injury," and neither did he work classified as one was entitled to appeal to the courts.

The case is the first of its kind that has been presented to an Ohio court, and if upheld will have a far-reaching effect because it will include in the compensation law all those workers who are disabled through occupational diseases.

In holding that contracting diseases come under the workmen's compensation act, Judge Cosgrave said:

"This law is designed in the construction herein given to it to protect men who imperil their health, if not their lives, to produce for the use of the human fellow men products that are essential and necessary in the arts and sciences, and are in so many ways beneficial and necessary to mankind. It is urged that this conception of the law will in the future rise to abuses and impositions on the part of those employed in these hazardous occupations, and that it will result in carelessness and heedlessness on their part. The experience of time does not justify this conclusion.

"It may be urged in reply that when fire insurance first came into vogue it was predicted that there would be frequent and deliberate destruction of property in order to obtain the benefits of such insurance. Experience has demonstrated that while there may have been some cases of arson, these are so few and far between as not to be worthy of mention. The same reasoning was urged against life insurance, it being claimed it would lead to recklessness in the manner of living, if not to deliberate self-destruction, and while such may have been, and doubtless were, cases of self-inflicted death to obtain such insurance, yet so rare indeed has they been that no man of sound judgment would long suspect the abandonment of the very great benefits derived therefrom. The same was said as to health and accident insurance. The experience of man has been such as to demand the increase and maintenance of these different plans of insurance.

"It must not be forgotten that the moral obligation of men, their moral sensibilities and their consciences act in restraint of the abuses that were so freely predicted with reference to these systems of insurance. The law of self-interest and of self-preservation also operates in the same direction."

ECONOMIC POWER FIRST.

Washington, Oct. 31.—In discussing the coming A. F. of L. convention at Philadelphia, in the American Federationist, current issue, President Gompers says:

"Experience of many years teaches that the essential condition requisite for all success in economic organization is that it is the source of all power and the foundation of all activities. All else is subordinate to the economic organization. The A. F. of L. has passed the two million mark and is now pressing forward toward the three million goal. It has secured the enactment of legislation establishing new legal rights for organization and to legitimate activities necessary to make organization effective. It is now facing an opportunity for organization upon a more extensive scale and of a more thorough character than ever before possible. Great possibilities lie in the immediate future.

"These are the things that should be foremost in the minds of the delegates to the Philadelphia convention. They have power in their hands to make or mar human lives by the nature and by the spirit of their deliberations. And the members of the organized labor movement and those who as yet have no agency through which to express their inarticulate yearnings, confidently look to that convention to deal wisely and nobly with the matters that shall come before it."

HOME RULE FOR CITIES.

Boston, Oct. 31.—Before a state committee investigating city affairs, Governor Walsh urged that a law be passed providing for certain charters, from any city or city ward that is dissatisfied with them, through the initiative and referendum. The state executive declared in favor of legislation by which purely local and trivial matters may be settled by the cities and towns themselves.

"I do not believe the legislature should force any charter upon the people of a city," he said. "There is such a wide difference in the conditions in the thirty-three cities of Massachusetts that I conceive it to be impossible for anybody to frame one form of charter which would be applicable to all of them. Existing charters should continue until the people want a change.

"If you seek to prevent cities through the legislature you are depriving the people of their fundamental rights; you are substituting State government for city government."

TO ACT AS UMPIRE.

Wilmington, Del., Oct. 31.—Judge George Gray has been appointed umpire to decide certain differences which have arisen between members of the board of conciliation, established under the terms of the anthracite coal strike commission, appointed in 1902.

It is said differences have arisen, involved, most of which are of minor importance. Under the provisions of the award it is provided that if the board could not agree on questions submitted the court should appoint an umpire, whose decision shall be final and binding.

TO HONOR A. F. OF L.

Philadelphia, Oct. 31.—Mayor Blankenburg has signed an ordinance appropriating $25,000 for defraying expenses to honor the thirty-fourth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor. A large delegation of local trade unionists were present when the mayor's signature made the act a law.

Philadelphia organized workers declare this convention will be the record breaker, and the night parade will be the largest ever witnessed in this city.

A "SCOTCH VERDICT."

North Vancouver, B. C., Oct. 31.—In investigating the death of a laborer who was drowned by falling off a bridge on which he was employed, the coroner's jury brought in a verdict of accidental death, but made this recommendation: "That the contracting company should exercise more care in the future."

WIRE MEN MAKE GAINS.

Minneapolis, Oct. 31.— Electrical Workers Union No. 292 announces that many of the leading contractors in this city now employ union men, and the number is constantly increasing.

FARMS FOR JAIL INMATES

Philadelphia, Oct. 31.—The cost of maintaining county jails in this State, estimated at $1,000,000, would be cut in half if industrial farms were established and prisoners given employment instead of wasting their time in idleness behind prison bars, is the opinion of Secretary Votaw, of the Pennsylvania Prison Society, after a personal investigation of conditions in the jails of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.

"Our efforts to find work for the convicts," he says, "are in line with the prevention of crime. In time, we trust, some remuneration may be given to the men who work. It may be true that in the olden days a sentence to 'hard labor' involved the inhumane setting the tortures of the chain gang, but now a sentence to labor is a greater blessing than a sentence to idleness."

The average daily population of the county jails in 1913, Mr. Votaw says, was 6,746. Of these the number engaged daily in some work of service was 2,377, leaving 3,362, or nearly 50 per cent, in idleness. He figures the number of days spent in idleness during the year at about 1,000,000, as follows:

"During this time we support them while idle and often are obliged to support their families. Many of them under judge sentences a man to prison he is at the same time sentencing a family to destitution and to pauperism. Loss in idleness, 1,000,000 days at 50 cents a day, the economic waste amounts to $500,000 in one year."

His remedy for the loss in idleness is the industrial farm. In many counties the number of prisoners is too small to warrant establishment of such farms, but he says, the objection can be largely met by the establishment of several farms under control of the state authorities, to which those convicted of minor offenses could be sent.

While the law forbids employment of more than 20 per cent of prisoners at any one time in the manufacture of articles which are to be sold in the market, Mr. Votaw says that a farm many could be employed in their own maintenance, without conflict with the statutes.

UNIONISTS SUPPORT OFFICIAL.

Salt Lake City, Oct. 31.—Conferences between the Master Builders' association and three employes, members of the electrical workers' strike, have failed to adjust the difficulty. In a statement issued to the public, the unionists say: "The contractors refused to accept in their declaration that they would not consider any agreement as long as E. A. Wilcox was business agent of the electrical workers' union, but said that if Wilcox was withdrawn from the organization they would take the striking electricians back to work and consider the agreement."

"We wish to inform the public that in the past the contractors have made similar offers, and when they were returned to work, agreements were ignored. The matter was discussed and unanimously rejected at a meeting passed on Mr. Wilcox as business agent. If Mr. Wilcox wishes to resign now, as he did at the time he says he had no controversy, he will not be permitted to do so, as the trouble has developed into a building trades issue.

"It is the general opinion of men identified with the labor movement in this city that if the contractors were allowed to designate who shall be officers in any union organization the aims of organized labor will be defeated."

IOWA'S SHOP WORKERS.

Des Moines, Iowa, Oct. 31.—In a report issued by State Commissioner of Labor Dick it is shown there are in the 58,706 workers employed in 1,325 establishments in the state, but only 1,625 receive compensation of more than $25 per week. The great bulk of the wage-earners receive between $12 and $15 a week, the next number considered 17,868 receive between $12 and $15 a week, while 12,971 are given between $15 and $20, 6,291 are paid from $20 to $25 per week.

Out of the 58,706 persons, 48,710 were men, or a total of 83.0 per cent, and 644, or 1.1 per cent were persons under sixteen years of age. One thousand, three hundred and twenty females are employed but only 1,571 received more than $16 a week and but forty receive over $20 a week.

TO STOP OVERTIME.

Hamilton, Ontario, Oct. 31.—The city council has approved the suggestion of the Labor Trades and Labor Council to stop overtime on municipal work for the purpose of giving more men employment.

The following provision, or "rider" clause will be inserted in future specifications for city work:

"That all labor employed in the performance of the work mentioned in these specifications shall be paid not less than an average of 25 cents per hour, and in the event of the current rate of wages paid by the city corporation to its laborers during the performance of this contract being greater than 25 cents per hour, the laborers shall be paid such current rate; and workmen employed in the trades shall be paid the rate of wages, and employed the hours of labor, established by the respective trades."

WILL MEET IN CHICAGO.

Chicago, Oct. 31.—The question of higher wages for engineers and firemen employed on ninety-eight western railroads will be decided by an arbitration board, which will hold meetings in this city beginning November 8. About 65,000 workers are affected by the award. Max Thorek, Burgess, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and Vice President Shea, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, are to be the workers' arbitrators, while Warren S. Stone and W. G. Lee, heads of the brotherhoods of engineers and firemen, respectively, will serve as counsel for the labor organizations. Two neutrals will be selected by the United States Board of Mediation.

SAYS LABOR LAW IS VIOLATED.

Boston, Oct. 31.—The New England District Council of Carpenters has filed charges the Edison Electric Illuminating Company with the commission, in which it is declared organized labor, even to the extent of violating the federal contract labor law. Certain officials of the corporation are urged to start an agitation for the purpose of canceling the company's charter. A letter of protest was sent President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, on the company's disregard for law.

A GOOD CONVENTION.

Phoenix, Ariz., Oct. 31.—The biggest and best in the history of Arizona is the report of delegates from other trade unionists who attended the third annual convention of the State Federation of Labor, held in this city. Several initiative measures, to be voted on at the coming election, were indorsed, and a representative was appointed to watch the progress of legislation at the state capitol. Flagstaff was chosen as the next convention city.

OHIO JUDGE RULES PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS HAVE THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

Cleveland, O., Oct. 31.—In a decision replete with scathing terms and declarations for freedom of action by teachers, Common Pleas Judge Neff today denied Superintendent Frederick guilty of contempt of court for refusing to obey an order to reinstate six grade teachers who were dismissed because they belonged to their newly formed union against the orders of the Board of Education.

The decision is a remarkable one because of its condemnation of methods employed by public school officials in this city, and also because of a defense of the teachers to form a union, and affiliate to the American Federation of Labor, which, the court declares, is "a lawful organization."

Judge Neff was not partial in the use of strong terms in his condemnation of the superintendent, whose methods were declared to be "cruel, heartless, and tyrannical," and whose excuses are termed "mere, sheer, bare, bald evasion, and pretense."

In referring to the resolution of the board of education prohibiting teachers joining the union, Judge Neff said:

"The antiunion resolution of the board was vicious in its principle as well as subversive of constitutional liberty. If the board can validly discriminate against labor unions, then it may discriminate because of race, or color, or nationality, or creed, or for any other arbitrary reason.

"There is no necessary conflict between affiliation with this union and the highest efficiency in the application of a teacher. The testimony submitted in the case shows that all the alarm of strikes and boycotts that seems to have disturbed the board is utterly unfounded, for the fact is that strikes amongst public employes are not tolerated by the Federation.

"It is un-American and grossly unjust to legislate in any way against those who toil.

"The board has a right to pass the rule. It was an act of folly, and its principle was vicious, un-American, unpatriotic, and unjust. If the courts are so pulsked, so powerless, so decrepit as to interfere, then Judge Neff ought to be brought to the courthouse in wheelchairs and fed with spoons.

"The high-handed outrage which the board of education seemed determined to commit was so spectacular, so glaring, that it was high time that a precedent be made; so this court made one, and by so doing saved hundreds of teachers from losing their positions.

"This may be the last important case which I shall ever decide; but if it is, I could not wish a finer valedictory.

"There is no doubt that the teachers, in voting for the union, did so in good faith, and not with any of the incendiary or revolutionary motives imputed to them. They had an undoubted right to join the union. The American Federation of Labor is a lawful organization.

"But no sooner had they voted to join the union than somebody cried, 'fire,' and then the trouble began.

"Then the board passed that foolish resolution that they would annul every contract of every teacher who should join the union, and expel her from the schools.

"And not only that, but the board declared that no member of the American Federation of Labor should be allowed to teach 'school in Cleveland; and it had as much right to pass that resolution as it would have had to repeal the ten commandments.

"The members of the board had strange visions of strikes and lockouts and boycotts and all other ghostly apparitions which are born of sudden terror and alarm; but the plain truth is, as is clearly shown by the evidence, that the American Federation of Labor will not tolerate strikes by employes engaged in the service of the public.

"So this excitement was, after all, merely a troubled dream; and yet, upon so slight a provocation as this, the board passed that resolution, and the superintendent proceeded in hot haste to put it into immediate execution.

"He summoned his four assistants and issued his fiat that they should begin to investigate and report to him, and then the 'reign of terror' began.

"In taking up the right of labor to organize, Judge Neff said:

"Labor unions are lawful organizations. It is grossly unjust to legislate in any way against those who toil. Labor is the only property the workingman brings to the market, and it is all he has.

"The climax of the decision came when the judge looked directly at Frederick and said:

"Mr. Frederick, the overwhelming weight of the evidence establishes that you are guilty of contempt. You can still do some semblance of justice to these teachers. Unspeak your bitter word of banishment!

"Why should it be said that you have destroy their usefulness, and break their hearts? I would reinstate them myself if I had power under the law to do so. You owe their reinstatement to the public, whose servant you are.

"You are out of harmony with the public, your real employer. You are not employed by the board of education, but by the public. In your loyal service to your unnatural masters, the board, you have drifted away from your real master, the public.

"I assure you that in the measure that you extend consideration to these teachers, in the same measure will the court extend consideration to you."

Attorneys for the teachers assert that the decision paves the way for the unionization of teachers in all the larger cities of the State, and will result in higher and more uniform wages.

CONGRESS ADJOURNS.

Washington, Oct. 31.—After nearly fourteen months of continuous session, Congress adjourned last Saturday. It was convened in extra session by President Wilson April 7, 1913. The present session is the first regular session of the Sixty-third Congress. The most important legislation, from the workers' standpoint, was the passage of the Clayton amendments to the anti-trust law, which exempts organized labor from trust classification, regulates injunction writs and provides jury trials in alleged charges of indirect contempts.

The three most important labor laws to be considered at the final session of the Sixty-third Congress are: Seamen's bill, which has passed both Houses, and is now in Senate committee; immigration restriction, passed by the House and reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, and domestic canal bill, passed by House and reported favorably by Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

The six former bills were passed by both Houses of the Sixty-second Congress, but were vetoed by President Taft.

TENNESSEE WORKERS GAIN.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Oct. 31.—The next convention of the State Federation of Labor will be held in this city December 28. In calling attention to this gathering, Organizer Hoepfner reminds the workers that among the features of this state that a new record has been made the past few years in securing remedial legislation. Among these are compulsory education, creating the department of mines, creating the department of factory inspection, providing for the collection of vital statistics, an indeterminate sentence and parole system, plumbing inspection for Chattanooga, creating a workmen's compensation commission, and an amendment to the coal law so as to include mills, etc. The incoming legislature will consider mothers' pensions, a compulsion act, a minimum wage for female employes and the abolishment of convicted labor in competition with free labor.

SAVING IN ARMOR PLATE.

Washington, Oct. 31.—Contracts for $16,674,113 worth of armor plate and steel for the new battleships Nevada, Oklahoma, Mississippi, and Idaho were awarded by the navy department to the Bethlehem and Midvale Steel companies. Reductions in prices of materials resulted in a saving for the government of $873,887, as compared with the cost per ton of armor bought for the battleship Pennsylvania, two years ago.

The Bethlehem company was awarded contracts for material for two vessels, aggregating $11,727,798, and the Midvale company obtained the award for the other at $5,053,404.

FAVOR COMPENSATION ACT.

Nashville, Oct. 31.—The Trades and Labor Council has passed a resolution calling upon the next legislature to enact a compensation law similar to the similar to the Ohio statute. The unionists reaffirmed their decision against the contract system of labor for state prisoners, and favor the employment of short term prisoners on city work, the manufacturing of text books free in all children of the state was indorsed.

FAVOR PAPER BALLOT.

Albany, N. Y., Oct. 31.—Courts in many counties of the state are ordering boards of election to prepare separate paper ballots for delegates to the constitutional convention. The remainder of the ticket may be voted by machine. Trade unionists have indorsed amendments of organized labor for the positions of delegates-at-large and district delegates to the constitutional convention, and the decisions referred to is favorable to the workers.

FOOD PRODUCTS DISCUSSED.

Boston, Oct. 31.—"The greatest need of the city today is the opportunity to obtain food products at reasonable prices," said Mrs. George S. Ladd, lecturer of the State Grange, in a public address.

"The barterings of food products should stop. Today, for instance, I own an acre of land in New England today, fifteen miles from a large city, that is producing next to nothing. I wonder if there was an opportunity to sell all that could be raised at a reasonable amount over the cost of production.

"Massachusetts has been liberal in appropriations for agriculture, so far as teaching the farmers how to grow things is concerned, but of what use is that knowledge unless he can sell what he raises at a profit?

"I shall be glad to arrange meetings this winter, with your co-operation as consumers, to bring producers and consumers closer together, to get the producer into the farm to the consumers direct.

"Do not think that all the foodstuffs in New England can be handled in this way, but it furnishes an opportunity for immediate results. It would relieve all our great trolley system in New England could be used at night for the transportation of farm products to the city."

IS SLAVE LABOR.

Boston, Oct. 31.—"Prison labor in New York state is nothing more or less than slave labor," said Governor Glynn, addressing a business point of view, than that of forcing convicts to work for the good results of 1-2 cents a day can hardly be imagined," declared Thomas Mott Osborne, of the New York commission on prison reform in an address in this city.

Mr. Osborne, who in 1913 spent several days as a convict in Auburn prison in order to study conditions there, is convinced that the work performed by prisoners will continue to be inefficient until some system is devised whereby the men can be made to prefer work to idleness.

"As an economic proposition," he said, "it would be infinitely better to pay a prisoner a fair wage and see that it goes toward the support of his family than to force him to work for practically nothing, leaving his family meanwhile to become a burden upon the community."

OHIO MINE RUN LAW LEGAL.

Washington, Oct. 31.—The United States Supreme court has affirmed the decision of a court in Ohio which held that the Ohio mine run, or the coal screen law, constitutional. The law provides that every ton of miner paid by weight shall be paid on the total weight of the coal with which it is mixed, after the slate is removed from the mine. For years Ohio miners have contended for this law, which was passed by the Ohio legislature after bitter opposition on the part of the operators.

EIGHT HOURS UNIVERSAL.

Washington, Oct. 31.—In referring to the eight-hour day, accepted by the Fowler Horse Nail company, of Seymour, Conn., the President of Conley, of the International Association of Machinists, writes A. B. Du Bois, manager, "I believe that this now puts all the horse nail factories on the same basis—that is, the eight-hour day and collective signed agreements of carrying the label."

"ASKING FOR HIS RIGHTS."

Pittsburgh, Pa., Oct. 31.—In an address in this city Rev. Theodore Herman, of the Lutheran Theological seminary, said: "The social problem is verbal, not the cry of a child asking for a gift, not that of a beggar asking for alms, but the speech of a full-grown man asking for his rights."

LONG STRIKE ENDED.

Indianapolis, Oct. 31.—Business Agent Barth, of the Paper Hangers' union, reports that the long strike against the Central Labor union that differences between his organization and the various building trades unions, and the Master Builders' association have been adjusted after an all-summer strike.

IMMIGRATION FIGURES.

Washington, Oct. 31.—The immigration bulletin for August, issued by the United States Department of Labor, states that $1,221 aliens were admitted to our shores during this time.

The effect of the European war was is shown in these figures. The arrivals for the four previous months were: July, 72,915; June, 85,994; May, 115,243; April, 144,207.

In the August report, immigrants from Canada show this year 4,463, against 16,217 during July. The August report showed 1,941 arrivals from Hungary, against 14,400 for July. Southern Europe showed the same decline.

The war made no difference on English and French immigrants. The figures for July and August are: England—July, 2,461; August, 2,529. France—July, 495; August, 351.

Among the August immigrants, 11,050 are recorded as coming to New York. Other industrial states received the following quota: Pennsylvania, 2,412; Illinois, 2,693; Massachusetts, 3,367; New Jersey, 1,394, and Ohio, 1,817.

FOREIGN TRADE BETTER.

Washington, Oct. 31.—Foreign trade of the United States shows steady improvement, according to a statement issued by the Department of Commerce.

Imports last month totaled $139,294,267, compared with $171,694,139 for September, 1913, and $144,819,465 for September, 1912. Export figures are: September, 1914, $156,188,790; 1913, $218,346,001; 1912, $198,678,062.

Gold imports amounted to $2,761,596, as against $6,857,776 for September of last year. Gold exports were $21,887,202, compared with $406,027 for September, 1913.

The balance of trade again shifted to the export side in September, exceeding imports by $16,894,523, as against an excess of imports amounting to $13,460,256 in August.

The imports into and the exports from the port of New York for the weeks ended October 3 and 10, 1914, were: Imports, October 3, $18,610,965; October 10, $18,546,368; exports, October 3, $13,276,865; October 10, $20,000,820. For the third week, ended October 17, 1913, $14,655,453, and for the week ended October 11, 1912, $13,127,952.

PAUPERISM DECREASING.

Washington, Oct. 31.—Pauperism is decreasing in the United States, according to a statement issued by the census department.

"The ratio of almshouse paupers to population has steadily declined at every census since 1880," the census bulletin declared.

One-third of the paupers in almshouses in 1910 were under fifty-five years of age and one-third seventy or over. The males predominate among the young and old. Preponderance of paupers of foreign birth also was cited. The ratio of pauperism was highest in Western States, where population considered, and it was declared that almshouses are rapidly becoming merely a temporary shelter instead of a permanent home.

MUST PROVIDE PURE WATER.

Washington, Oct. 31.—The serving of meals on trains or boats will hereafter subject common carriers to a heavy fine, if standard pure water has not been prescribed by a United States public health service commission and approved by Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo. It fixes the minimum of impurities certain quantities of water may contain, and carriers will be required to maintain that standard.

REMOVE TO BETTER HOMES.

Washington, Oct. 31.—In a report to the Secretary of Commerce it is stated that 5,574 alley dwellers in the city have been induced to move into better homes through the creation of the board for the condemnation of insanitary dwellings in alleys.

WAGE INCREASE REJECTED

Gloversville, N. Y., Oct. 31.—Glove manufacturers in this city, whose employes are on strike, have rejected the proposal of the state board of arbitration and mediation that a 15-cent increase be given their workers. The strike began on August 28 and was participated in by all the 1,500 glove cutters, which that involved about 15,000 other workers, and was occasioned by the refusal of the manufacturers to grant an increase in the piece price of cutting gloves of 25 cents a dozen on the lined boys' gloves and of 20 cents a dozen on women's gloves. While the board recommended a 15-cent increase, it stated that the first request of 20 and 25 cents did not seem exorbitant. Several manufacturers have lately conceded an advance on the basis recommended by the board.

In a public statement issued by the strikers, they say:

"The committee of the manufacturers have now placed themselves on record as being the first body of manufacturers in any industry to call down the state authorities in their endeavors to settle a wage strike, thereby bringing industrial peace to the community.

"The position the manufacturers have taken in rejecting the state's recommendation, is one that is dangerous to the welfare of the citizens of Fulton county in many ways.

"The strikers' committee have pledged themselves to the county authorities to do all in their power to prevent violence in any form. The manufacturers, by their arrogant action, seem to be doing everything in their power to provoke men, thereby causing violence in the community."

"SAFETY FIRST" IN MILLS.

Boston, Oct. 31.—The State Industrial Accident Board is arranging for a "safety first" campaign in the mills and factories of Massachusetts. In a circular the board suggests that a man be employed as "safety inspector," and spend all his time inspecting the plant as regards the safety of employes. In smaller establishments it is advised that this work can be done by an employe in connection with other duties. A safety committee should be selected by and from the workers to make frequent daily inspection of the plant and offer suggestions to the safety inspector. It is stated that this committee will bring to the safety organization a vast amount of practical experience, and workers will have a chance for improvement will have some one to report to.

One of the common causes for accidents in industrial establishments is poor lighting. This is also mentioned in the statement of the board, and one of the first duties mentioned for the safety inspector is to look after the lighting arrangements and make sure that dangerous machines are well illuminated.

DISCUSSES LABOR'S PROGRAM.

Fall River, Mass., Oct. 31.—The Globe of this city makes this editorial reference to organized labor's attempt to secure remedial legislation:

"The Massachusetts state branch of the American Federation of Labor has laid out a very comprehensive and interesting program of what it hopes to get and will labor to obtain at the next session of the legislature. It will be a year of remedial and amendatory laws in the general interest of the labor movement.

"Many of the measures that are to be incorporated in the list of the labor men have been proposed before by friends of industrial conditions, and no doubt will prove of strong and convincing appeal, when placed before the members of the legislature for consideration next year.

"In these days of advancement and improvement in the civic and social conditions of the toilers of the country, Massachusetts is not going to take her stand in the front rank, as she has always done in the past, when the amelioration of unjust conditions of the laboring men is being considered."

BARTENDERS RAISE WAGES.

Boston, Oct. 31.—The Bartenders union has raised the wages of its 1,500 members $3 a week. The new scale is for $21 a week instead of $18 for a 60-hour work week. The agreement between the union and employers is for four years, to take effect on the first Monday in January, 1915. It further provided that extra bartenders shall receive the regular rate of $3 per day for work in excess of the ten hours on Saturday, with 40 cents an hour overtime. Sundays and holidays the bartenders will receive 25 a day with 50 cents an hour overtime. Any man now receiving more than $21 a week will not have his wages reduced.

The union agrees to suspend any member who leaves his position before the regular time and without permission, while the employers agree to employ members of the union unless about their places of business. The bartenders in hotels where meals are served will receive $1 less a week than the new scale calls for.

DEATH IN THE MINES.

Washington, Oct. 31.—The following statement was issued by the United States Bureau of Mines conveys some notion of the dangers confronting coal miners:

"The miner, if he has a safety lamp, should carefully look to the roof, prop it slowly across the working face and hold it for two or three minutes in the interest of safety. In the test the roof may have collected. If no gas is found, the roof and face should be sounded with a hammer, and if the sound is dull, with one hand the place being tested. If the lamp shows the presence of gas, it must be put out slowly toward one end and put under the coat to smother the flame if the gas has fired inside the gauze. The working place should then be left at once, bars or timbers put across the face, and a report made to the mine foreman, fire boss, or nearest official. The miner should be attentive to duty and careful, or lives have been lost or killed by trying."

NEWS OF EDUCATION.

Washington, Oct. 31.—That many of the United States consular and diplomatic representatives abroad have rendered a very real service in obtaining information for the various educational movements is a fact to which tribute is paid in a bulletin issued by the bureau of education. The bureau acknowledges that it counts on these representatives to keep it informed of the trend of educational movements and publishes each year for the benefit of American readers a report of what is abroad, but who must know what other countries are doing educationally.

FIGHTING TUBERCULOSIS.

Baltimore, Oct. 31.—The Typographical union has inaugurated a campaign against tuberculosis by the erection of a cottage. Samuel Jackson has issued an appeal to every printing office proprietor in the city to co-operate in the improvement of ventilation and the observance of sanitary precaution that will minimize the spread of disease that annually claims

WAGES ARE FORCED UPWARD

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In a public statement issued by the strikers, they say:

"The committee of the manufacturers have now placed themselves on record as being the first body of manufacturers in any industry to call down the state authorities in their endeavors to settle a wage strike, thereby bringing industrial peace to the community.

"The position the manufacturers have taken in rejecting the state's recommendation, is one that is dangerous to the welfare of the citizens of Fulton county in many ways.

"The strikers' committee have pledged themselves to the county authorities to do all in their power to prevent violence in any form. The manufacturers, by their arrogant action, seem to be doing everything in their power to provoke men, thereby causing violence in the community."

"SAFETY FIRST" IN MILLS.

Boston, Oct. 31.—The State Industrial Accident Board is arranging for a "safety first" campaign in the mills and factories of Massachusetts. In a circular the board suggests that a man be employed as "safety inspector," and spend all his time inspecting the plant as regards the safety of employes. In smaller establishments it is advised that this work can be done by an employe in connection with other duties. A safety committee should be selected by and from the workers to make frequent daily inspection of the plant and offer suggestions to the safety inspector. It is stated that this committee will bring to the safety organization a vast amount of practical experience, and workers will have a chance for improvement will have some one to report to.

One of the common causes for accidents in industrial establishments is poor lighting. This is also mentioned in the statement of the board, and one of the first duties mentioned for the safety inspector is to look after the lighting arrangements and make sure that dangerous machines are well illuminated.

DISCUSSES LABOR'S PROGRAM.

Fall River, Mass., Oct. 31.—The Globe of this city makes this editorial reference to organized labor's attempt to secure remedial legislation:

"The Massachusetts state branch of the American Federation of Labor has laid out a very comprehensive and interesting program of what it hopes to get and will labor to obtain at the next session of the legislature. It will be a year of remedial and amendatory laws in the general interest of the labor movement.

"Many of the measures that are to be incorporated in the list of the labor men have been proposed before by friends of industrial conditions, and no doubt will prove of strong and convincing appeal, when placed before the members of the legislature for consideration next year.

"In these days of advancement and improvement in the civic and social conditions of the toilers of the country, Massachusetts is not going to take her stand in the front rank, as she has always done in the past, when the amelioration of unjust conditions of the laboring men is being considered."

BARTENDERS RAISE WAGES.

Boston, Oct. 31.—The Bartenders union has raised the wages of its 1,500 members $3 a week. The new scale is for $21 a week instead of $18 for a 60-hour work week. The agreement between the union and employers is for four years, to take effect on the first Monday in January, 1915. It further provided that extra bartenders shall receive the regular rate of $3 per day for work in excess of the ten hours on Saturday, with 40 cents an hour overtime. Sundays and holidays the bartenders will receive 25 a day with 50 cents an hour overtime. Any man now receiving more than $21 a week will not have his wages reduced.

The union agrees to suspend any member who leaves his position before the regular time and without permission, while the employers agree to employ members of the union unless about their places of business. The bartenders in hotels where meals are served will receive $1 less a week than the new scale calls for.

DEATH IN THE MINES.

Washington, Oct. 31.—The following statement was issued by the United States Bureau of Mines conveys some notion of the dangers confronting coal miners:

"The miner, if he has a safety lamp, should carefully look to the roof, prop it slowly across the working face and hold it for two or three minutes in the interest of safety. In the test the roof may have collected. If no gas is found, the roof and face should be sounded with a hammer, and if the sound is dull, with one hand the place being tested. If the lamp shows the presence of gas, it must be put out slowly toward one end and put under the coat to smother the flame if the gas has fired inside the gauze. The working place should then be left at once, bars or timbers put across the face, and a report made to the mine foreman, fire boss, or nearest official. The miner should be attentive to duty and careful, or lives have been lost or killed by trying."

NEWS OF EDUCATION.

Washington, Oct. 31.—That many of the United States consular and diplomatic representatives abroad have rendered a very real service in obtaining information for the various educational movements is a fact to which tribute is paid in a bulletin issued by the bureau of education. The bureau acknowledges that it counts on these representatives to keep it informed of the trend of educational movements and publishes each year for the benefit of American readers a report of what is abroad, but who must know what other countries are doing educationally.

FIGHTING TUBERCULOSIS.

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The men requested an increase in wages early in June. The matter was referred by the local project engineer to the Water Users' association, the organization of farmers who are the prospective owners of the 5,300 acres now arid land which is to be turned down by the irrigation project. The system in vogue in this part of work is that the government installs the system by which to irrigate the land. The expense is to be charged up to the land as a part of the mortgage and is to be paid in installments by the land owners. It will be readily seen that the Water Users' association was in agreement with the project engineer to make this the cheapest job on earth. They recommended decided that the increase in wages could not be granted.

The men appealed to Secretary Lane, who requested Secretary W. B. Wilson of the Department of Labor to look into the difficulty. Secretary Wilson replied that it seemed to him not a case for arbitration, but for investigation. He stated that if the government was paying less than the prevailing rate the men should report secretly and that he would requested him to investigate.

The matter was then turned over to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Mr. Ethelbert Stewart, chief statistician of the bureau, was sent to Colorado to investigate. Mr. Stewart recommended that the rates be raised to the scale maintained by the Western Federation of Miners, so far as tunnel mining was concerned, as this work is essentially identical to the work done by the Federation's ore miners in western Colorado.

Mr. Stewart recommended that the minimum rate of wages for all tunnel workers should be $3.60 a day, an increase of $1.10 a day; that machine men be paid $4.00, and machine helpers, timber men, etc., be paid $3.82, an increase of $1.32 a day; that the rate of contract for cement shovelers outside the tunnel be $2.50, an increase from $2.34; that muckers be paid $2.65, an increase from $2.24; that key shovelers and key tampers be paid $2.80, an increase from $2.50.

There was also a compulsory ruling that all men not having families actually living on the ground must take their meals at the government mess-house. A number of the men lived near the works and refused to board at the mess. In other words, they were compelled to take their meals at the mess-house while living within a few minutes walk of the works. This rule, Mr. Stewart asked to have annulled.

The October 22 Secretary Lane signed an order putting into effect all of the rates recommended by Commissioner of Labor Stewart, thus settling one of the very bitter controversies in the Colorado industrial situation.

FAVORS MORE COMPENSATION.

Youngstown, Ohio, Oct. 31.—In an address before the Ohio State Federation of Labor, Thomas J. Duffy, member of the State Industrial Commission, and ex-president of the Brotherhood of Operative Potters, urged an increase of compensation in death cases, and favored the maximum limit of $5,000 fixed by other states, and this difference can be easily added to the fund and thereby increase the compensation.

The convention instructed its executive committee to draft legislation for the compensation act to prohibit employers demanding a physical test to applicants for employment.

Resolutions against the importation of "gunmen" into the state during strike disturbances were adopted. President Voll and Secretary Treasurer Donnelly were reelected, Youngstown was selected as the next convention city.

FOR FEEBLE-MINDED WOMEN.

Philadelphia, Oct. 31. — "Feebleminedness is a vital factor in the social problem, and a place in Pennsylvania where we can segregate these women between the ages of eighteen and forty-five. When we find a means of reducing child birth among feeble-minded women we will have gone a long way toward solving its problem," said Dr. Mary M. Wolfe, a member of the board of managers for the proposed state colony for feeble-minded women, in urging an appropriation by the legislature. The bill for an appropriated $80,000 to buy a tract of land for the home.

WANT NEW CONSTITUTION.

Indianapolis, Oct. 31.—The Central Labor union has declared in favor of a state constitutional convention in 1915. The resolution declares: "A constitutional convention has a vital interest for labor from the opportunity it affords to secure the adoption of such laws as workingmen may desire. A more direct voice in government through the initiative and referendum, compensation for industrial accidents through a workmen's compensation law, and other legislation looking to the improvement of industrial conditions in the state."

"SEEMS ALMOST" WICKED.

Philadelphia, Oct. 31.—In the suit of the department of morals to close the strut a letter written in 1909 by Andrew Carnegie to Mayor Reyburn was read into the record, in which the former steel magnate stated that: "If we fill orders for armor plate for Russia, which will mean a profit of $40,000,000 or possibly $50,000,000. To want more seems almost wicked."

REDUCE MINING COSTS.

Austenreid, Pa., Oct. 31.—At a conference of miners and officers of the Lehigh Valley Coal company, it was agreed that the output may be increased 25 per cent. Oil was decreased from cents to 45 cents per gallon and price of powder reduced 25 per cent, although the price of forty-nine articles was reduced.

ASKS FOR HIGHER WAGES.

Milwaukee, Wis., Oct. 31.—Bond buyers in the city have petitioned the state industrial commission to raise wages of women and girls in the city. It is said that many Mil